

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02230 071657Z

43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-03 AID-05 SSO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 AS-01

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O R 071630Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1645

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2230

STATE FOR NEA/ARN, CU/NEA

BEIRUT FOR AOO/BALL

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, OEXC, SY

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE: AID/AUB PROJECT

REF: A. DAMASCUS 2050; B. STATE 212028; C. STATE 220095

1. REF A REPORTED AID/AUB PROJECT COULD HELP SATISFY SARG REQUESTS TO USG FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION IN EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE FIELD. REF B, SEPT 25, REPORTED AID STUDYING THE MATTER AND WILL REPLY BY SEPTTEL.

2. REF C REPORTED ON POSSIBLE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR SYRIA AS A RESULT OF WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS WITH SARG MINECON IMADI, BUT NO MENTION OF AID/AUB PROJECT. IN RESPONSE TO IMADI'S REQUEST, AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR NOOTER PROMISED PROVIDE SARG O/A OCTOBER 26 STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED AND NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS USG COULD FINANCE "IF AID LEGISLATION GOES THROUGH."

3. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ONLY IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE PROSPECTS WE NOW HAVE ARE PL-480 COMMODITY ASSISTANCE AND AID/AUD PROJECT MASTERS PROGRAM. WHILE AUB PROGRAM DOES NOT ANSWER SARG REQUEST TO US FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY IN US, OUR
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OFFER OF SUCH A PROGRAM WILL BE SEEN AS INITIAL HELPFUL

EFFORT ON OUR PART IN RESPONSE TO SARG REQUEST.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: STRONGLY URGE POSITIVE AID REPLY
BY OCTOBER 9 REGARDING ADDITION IN FEBRUARY 1975 OF SYRIAN
STUDENTS TO AID/AUB PROJECT SO THAT SECRETARY MAY BE
IN A POSITION TO OFFER THIS ASSISTANCE DURING HIS OCTOBER 11
VISIT SHOULD SYRIANS AGAIN RAISE SUBJECT OF SCHOLARSHIPS.
MURPHY

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NNN

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